

Remarks:

These remarks are responsive to the Office action dated October 6, 2004. Claims 1-26 are pending in the application. In view of the remarks below, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and allowance of the pending claims.

In the Office action, each of claims 1-26 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Application Publication Number US 2002/0065872 to Genske at al.

Application No. US 2002/0065872 to Genske at al. was filed after conception of the subject matter of the present application, as attested to in the Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 attached hereto and as demonstrated by HP Lab Notebook #1146, pages 54-58, a copy of which is attached to the declaration as Exhibit 1. Furthermore, applicants diligently worked toward reducing the subject matter of the present application to practice from before September 13, 2000 until June 5, 2001, the filing date of the present application. Therefore, Genske at al. is not prior art to the present application.

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Applicants believe that this application is in condition for allowance in view of the above remarks. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowability covering the pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions, or if a telephone interview would in any way advance prosecution of the application, please contact the undersigned attorney of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner M. Delgado, Group Art Unit 2144, Commissioner for Patents, at facsimile number (703) 872-9306 on January 5, 2005.


Christie A. Doolittle

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